

PGY-1 Pharmacy Residency at VA Connecticut

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What do you hope all residents get out of your program?

The purpose of our residency program is to develop pharmacists into well-rounded, competent clinical practitioners, emphasizing evidence-based medicine and providing compassionate patient care as integral members of the multidisciplinary team. The primary focus of the residency program is to develop competency in the areas of acute patient care, ambulatory patient care, drug information, drug policy development, and pharmacy management.

Upon completion of your residency, where have residents typically gone?

Our residents are qualified to practice independently or pursue specialized training with the capability and flexibility to adapt to future changes in healthcare. Residents have gone into a number of venues, some including: clinical pharmacy positions in ambulatory care and hospital practice, academia, and management. Others have gone on to complete specialized residencies and fellowship programs. Many of our residents have remained at VACT, now as preceptors to current and future residents!



How are the rotations scheduled for the PGY-1 residents?

The majority of the required rotations are scheduled during the first half of the year. Electives are selected on an individual basis. Timing and length of elective rotations are individualized for each resident to best meet their goals and interests.

What are your staffing requirements?

Currently, residents staff one weekend every four weeks in the inpatient pharmacy and also one weekday every other week from September to December. Each resident is also required to work one holiday. This is subject to change each year depending on the number of residents and the needs of the department.

What teaching opportunities are available for the residents?

VA Connecticut is affiliated with the University of Connecticut, University of St. Joseph, and Western New England Schools of Pharmacy. The residents have ample opportunity to precept PharmD students on rotations as well as provide lectures at the universities. Residents also participate in a teaching certificate program with the University of Connecticut.

What types of projects are required for the resident?

The resident is responsible for completing a major research project that is presented at both the ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting and Eastern States Residency Conference. The resident is also responsible for providing a continuing education lecture presentation. Other projects include: a medication use evaluation, journal clubs, and patient case presentations which are done monthly. Rotation specific projects may also be required.



How are residents evaluated during the residency program?

Each rotation is formally evaluated and documented in Resitrak. Residents are also provided with formative verbal feedback throughout each of their rotations. A customized training plan is discussed between the resident and the program director on a quarterly basis. Adjustments are made to the customized plan based on the resident's strengths, weakness, interests, and goals, and incorporates feedback from the resident and from preceptors.

What should candidates expect with the application and interview process?

Applications must be submitted through PhORCAS no later than January 7th. Applications will be reviewed by our residency advisory board and candidates to whom interviews will be offered will be contacted by the end of January. On-site interviews will be conducted in February. Candidates will interview with the residency program director and all available residency preceptors. A standardized criteria is used to evaluate candidates.

You may also refer to our website (www.vactresidency.shutterfly.com) for additional information about our program.

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VACT PGY-1 PHARMACY RESIDENCY OVERVIEW

The PGY-1 pharmacy residency is accredited by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists. The primary focus of this residency is to develop the resident into a competent clinical practitioner who will contribute to positive patient outcomes. The goal of the residency program is to develop competency in the areas of acute patient care, ambulatory/primary care, drug information, and practice management.

The resident will achieve these goals through participation in a variety of required and elective rotations. The selection of elective rotations is individualized, based on each resident's goals and interests. In addition, completion of a residency research project is required. The project will be presented at the ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting and the Eastern States Residency Conference. The resident is required to participate in quality assurance programs, formulary management, and various institutional meetings. The resident participates in teaching activities in the training of pharmacy students from associated schools of pharmacy. The residency program is also affiliated with the Center of Excellence in Primary Care, a multidisciplinary training program offered at VA Connecticut.

Required Rotations

- Ambulatory Care (1 month/Longitudinal)
- Anticoagulation (1 month)
- Center of Excellence in Primary Care (1 month)
- Drug Information (Longitudinal)
- Inpatient Staffing (Longitudinal)
- Internal Medicine (2 months)
- Management (1 month)
- Research (Longitudinal)

Elective Rotations

- Emergency Room
- Geriatrics
- Long Term Care
- Home Based Primary Care
- Hospice/Palliative Care
- Infectious Disease
- Inpatient Psychiatry
- Inpatient Surgery
- Medical ICU
- Oncology
- Operating Room
- Outpatient Mental Health
- Specialty Clinics
- Surgical ICU



2013-2014 VACT RESIDENTS



PGY-1 Pharmacy Residents

Anna Chmielewska, PharmD
Anna.Chmielewska@va.gov
Dolores Ciccone, PharmD
Addolorata.Ciccone@va.gov
Beth Flatley, PharmD
Elizabeth.Flatley@va.gov
Pauline Park, PharmD
Pauline.Park@va.gov
Princy Pathickal, PharmD
Princy.Pathickal@va.gov
Dan Pham, PharmD
Dan.Pham@va.gov
Cristina Tran, PharmD
Cristina.Tran@va.gov

PGY-2 Geriatric Pharmacy Resident

Kristina Niehoff, PharmD
Kristina.Niehoff2@va.gov

PGY-1 Residency Program Director

Becky Curtin, PharmD, BCPS
Rebecca.Curtin@va.gov

PGY-2 Geriatric Residency Program Director

Sean Jeffery, PharmD, CGP, FASCP
Sean.Jeffery@va.gov

PGY-2 Mental Health Residency Program Director

Michelle Radtke, Pharm D, BCCP
Michelle.Radtke@va.gov